

AGRICULTURAL HINTS

BADLY-NEEDED REFORMS.

A Complaint from Ohio Which Applies to All Western States.

When I travel over Ohio's roads I wish that I might be an autocar with law at my back to change the location of roads at my will. Take, for instance, the road that climbs over the hill at Fig. 1. How very common that is in our part of Ohio; up the heavy hill must thousands and millions of weary horses toil with pleasure carriages and heavily loaded wagons. That hill not only means a tiresome climb, but it means more frequent trips. Why? Because the load must be regulated not to conform to



FIG. 1.

the draft of the level parts of the road, but to the draft of the hill. That means much when the farmer is taking his grain or his wood or his hay to market. Now and then some accident happens and a horse is hurt or a wagon demolished or a man killed in going down the hill. If a record could be kept of the casualties of the century on some of these hills it would appal the traveler. If not steep enough or long enough to be dangerous it is yet a waste of muscle to draw loads up the one sidemingly to hold them back from rushing down on the other side.

Fig. 2 also shows how by abandoning the straight line up over the hill the road may circle about the foot of it and make nearly a level stretch and often the curve around the base of the hill is not greatly longer than the curve over the hill. A pail handle is no longer

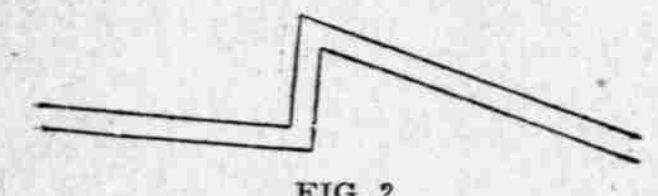


FIG. 2.

lying down than standing up. It was the fact that land was dear in Ohio and neighbors objected to having their fields cut up by roads dodging hills that caused the hill roads in this country. That reason is rapidly disappearing now. If we get no other good from the depression in agriculture let us seize the opportunity and have our roads follow the contour lines, i. e., the lines of equal level. No use to say: "The old road has climbed over the hill this very long time, we may as well let it be now." Think of the stretch of time ahead of us, the uncounted centuries that that road will be traveled and the ease with which it may now be changed as compared with the difficulty that may well be expected in the future. Our country is yet young and unformed, could we but realize it.

Then there are many ill-laid-out roads that make sudden turns as in Fig. 3. This is generally done to make the road conform to the farm boundaries. It is folly and worse than folly. The public could afford to buy the old angles and throw them away rather than to expend money in keeping roads in repair when so needlessly long.

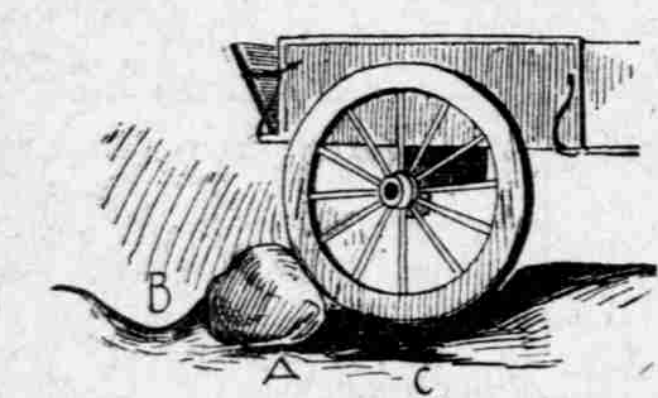


FIG. 3.

And we were both sober "and in our night minds," as nearly as I could judge. (No, the road did not seem too long that night.)

I live in a country where gravel is abundant and good roads, that is, comparatively good roads, are the rule. Yet I notice many things that are not right about them. One of the serious and needless mistakes is the putting of large stones in the roads. I noted to-day that the only place between our house and the village where the wagons have broken through the gravel is where there is a stone imbedded in the gravel, a stone of the size of a peck measure and projecting about three inches, as at Fig. 3. The wheels of heavy wagons have climbed upon this stone and plunged off on the other side until they have worn entirely through and it now needs several yards of fresh gravel drawn to mend it. I should say that the cost of leaving that stone in the road was about three dollars, that is, if the break is attended to at once. If it is neglected it will be more serious.—Joseph E. Wing, in Ohio Farmer.

Smothered in the Mud.

Fred Harvey, aged 35, a Barre teamster, was thrown from his wagon while driving over a muddy place in the road yesterday morning, and a wheel passing over his head forced his face down into the mud in such a way that he was smothered before aid reached him.—A Vermont Exchange.

A uniform production of fruit cannot be received from wet, heavy ground.

ABOUT TRANSPLANTING.

Some of the Important Points Which Must Not Be Neglected.

There are three essential items to be looked after in transplanting. They are puddling, compacting and protecting. A failure to give either properly will affect the growth of the plants. When properly done puddling is preferable to watering. The soil used in puddling should be a rich loam. If in addition one-third of it is well-rotted and fine cow manure or good commercial fertilizer all the better. Dip only a few plants at a time, so that the roots of each plant can be well covered with the rich mud. Make the hole large enough and deep enough to take in the plant without bending or twisting the roots. The depth that the plant should be set will depend upon the way it has grown; generally it will be safe to set the plant down to the first leaf. When grown thick in a close bed the plants often make a long, spindling growth, and if not set deep a good percentage of them will die.

Compact the soil close around the roots. The roots must come in close contact with the soil or the plant will die. It is too often the case in transplanting that a hole is made with a sharpened stick, the roots of the plants are dropped in, the soil is pressed around the stem of the plant with the point of the stick, while the roots barely touch the soil, if they touch it at all, and the plants die.

When the weather is warm and the soil rather dry, in many cases it will be a help if the plant bed is thoroughly watered two or three hours before taking up the plants.

It will be best to take up the plants and set them out late in the evening. This will give them all night to recuperate from the change.

When the plants have been growing in a close, protected bed it is quite a change to set them out all alone and often a little protection will be of material help. This may be given either by drawing a little mound of earth around the plant with the hand when the transplanting is done or by covering with a large leaf of some kind for a day or two.

When the weather is hot and the soil is dry it will be best to water for two or three nights after setting out. Always use water that has had the chill taken off and thoroughly wet the soil around the roots.—St. Louis Republic.

PLANTING TOMATOES.

The Right Way to Set Out Weak and Spindling Plants.

Young tomato plants, when growing up thickly in hotbeds or flats, will invariably become spindling and weak. If planted out in the usual way they have either to be inserted so deep that the roots will come in direct contact with the poorer subsoil, or the stems bend over and the tops fall upon the



HOW TO PLANT TOMATOES.

surface of the ground and will never make strong healthy plants. Of course strong, short, stocky plants are the best to set out, but if these cannot be had spindling plants may be made just as serviceable if planted as shown in our illustration. By this method the fine roots are nearer to the surface and the part of the stem underground will soon strike additional roots, thus giving the plant still more sustenance and nourishment.—Orange Judd Farmer.

ORCHARD PICKINGS.

With strawberries, flavor, color and firmness are of more importance than size. Profit in fruit culture has its beginning in the careful selection of the very best varieties.

In planting strawberries for market select varieties that will give a long season of ripening.

On the farm the first object in planting fruit should be to furnish the family with a good supply. The tree that bears a great crop of small fruit exhausts itself by having to produce an undue proportion of seeds.

Young trees will start into vigorous growth after transplanting with less check than older ones would experience.

A trellis made with three strands of wire, bracing the end posts thoroughly, is the best for grape vines.—Western Ploverman.

Soot as a Fertilizer.

Soot is a great fertilizer, as it contains ammonia salts, and a liberal dressing may be given and forked in while dry. Soot and sulphate of iron have been used as a means of producing higher color in apples, and with apparently good results. Where tanks exist for catching the drainage from farmyards, stables and houses, the liquid forms a valuable aid to fruit culture. Fruit trees and brush fruits standing in need of a stimulant may be watered with the liquid until the soil is saturated. Raspberry plantations always appreciate attention in this direction and never fail to give a good account of themselves afterwards. If it is not used in the garden it may be given to the orchard trees, pouring it on the surface of the grass round the trees and as far as the branches extend. If there are any doubts as to the liquid being too strong it can be diluted with water.—Western Ploverman.

WRAPS FOR SUMMER.

Short Capes of Silk and Lace, or Mantles for Older Women.

The matter of summer wraps and coats is a particularly serious one this season, for the present styles of dress demand some outer garment, and yet in spite of the sleeves being smaller, do not seem exactly suited to always being worn with coats and jackets. There are an unusual number of different styles in wraps, and all sorts of material are used, while in many cases two or three materials are combined.

A much simpler style, and one that is greatly liked, is a plain black silk trimmed with a band of jet passementerie, to give the effect of being gored. This flares out around the bottom and has three ruffles of chiffon, the top one of which is overlaid with a lace ruffle. An old cape can be remodeled into this style without any difficulty by cutting it off and putting on new ruffles and the strips of passementerie. Another way of remodeling an old cape is to cover it with graduating ruffles of white silk, over which are put black lace flounces. The taffeta silk which is used holds out the lace and looks very well. One just finished has black and white alternate flounces. This, of course, is smarter in effect than the all black. Black and white, by the way, grow in favor every day, and there are many new fads to carry out this color scheme. The newest of all models for capes is a white accordion-plaited chiffon, on which are sewed tiny ends of black feathers, and around the neck and edge are feathers.

Capotes entirely of chiffon and mouseline de soie are not so perishable as might be supposed, and the knots of black satin ribbon that are used and black satin lining, seem to give all the desired stability. In many instances these have the neck trimming made entirely of ostrich tips sewed on to form a ruche; but as ostrich tips have an unfortunate way of crocking, it does not do to wear them with too delicate fabrics—on this account mouseline and chiffon, with an inside scant ruffle of white lace, are preferred.

Mantles and mantillas—for those quaint old garments are now spoken of once more—are more suited to middle-aged women than the little capotes. These have the back fitted to the figure, and the sleeves, which are ruffles and flounces, are so put in as to give a light look and take away from the old-time appearance. Silk is the favorite material, although the brocades, particularly the moire satins, are very good for this purpose; the larger the figure the better. Lace is much more used for trimming them than chiffon or mouseline de soie, and they are garments that are fashionable and light for winter or summer.

The short, tight-fitting jackets, which are such a feature of this year's fashions, are the smartest things that can be thought of. They have now reached a perfection of cut and fit in the ready-made garments of this style that it will be difficult for any woman to resist. There are a great many gowns made which have the Eton jacket, and this jacket is of service to wear with other gowns, but there are no end of distinctive styles which are made to wear with any and every gown. In tan cloth, made on a pattern between an Eton and a military, fastened at the throat, but with loose fronts, is one charming model; this is braided with military braid of the same color; edged on either side with a narrow gilt braid; it is quite long in the back—that is, comes below the waist-line—the sleeves are small, and the whole effect is exceedingly trim and smart. Another style is of the regular military jacket, which buttons up to the throat and is tight-fitting—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Spider Corn Cake.

Three-quarters cupful corn meal, flour to fill the cup, one tablespoonful sugar, a pinch of salt, one-half teaspoonful soda (small), one egg, one cupful sweet milk, one-half cupful sour milk, one tablespoonful butter. Mix the meal, flour, sugar, salt, soda, beat the egg, add half sweet milk and all of the sour. Stir this into the dry mixture; melt the butter in a hot spider, and pour the mixture into it. Pour the other half cupful sweet milk over the top, but do not stir it in. Bake 20 minutes.—Boston Globe.

THE MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, June 14			
LIVE STOCK—Cattle, commons	2 50	3 25	
select butchers	4 00	4 40	
CALVES—Fair to good light	5 50	6 25	
HOGS—Common	3 00	3 25	
Mixed packers	3 35	3 45	
Slight shippers	3 40	3 47 1/2	
SHEEP—Choice	3 25	3 40	
LAMBS—Spring	4 85	5 40	
LEADS—Winter family	3 25	3 50	
Wheat—No 2	70		
No 3 red	60		
Corn—No 2 mixed	20		
Oats—No 2	37		
Hay—Prime to choice	10 75	11 10	
PROVISIONS—Mess pork	8 75		
Lard—Prime steam	3 40		
BUTTER—Choice dairy	6 00		
Prime to choice creamery	6 00	16 1/2	
APPLES—Per bbl.	3 00	3 50	
POTATOES—Per bbl.	1 25	1 50	
NEW YORK			
FLOUR—Winter patent	4 50	4 80	
GRAIN—Wheat—No 1 northern	75	75	
No 2 red	73 1/2	73 1/2	
CORN—No 2 mixed	20	20 1/2	
OATS—Mixed	21	21 1/2	
PORK—New mess	8 50	9 00	
LARD—Western	3 50	3 90	
CHICAGO			
FLOUR—Winter patent	4 20	4 40	
GRAIN—Wheat—No 2	70	70 1/2	
No 2 Chicago spring	70	70 1/2	
CORN—No 2	24 1/2	24 1/2	
OATS—No 2	18	18 1/2	
PORK—Mess	7 50	7 50	
LARD—Steam	4 20	4 45	
BALTIMORE			
FLOUR—Family	3 90	4 25	
GRAIN—Wheat—No 2	70	70 1/2	
Corn—Mixed	20	20 1/2	
Oats—No 2 white	17	17 1/2	
LARD—Refined	11 50	11 50	
PORK—Mess	8 50	8 50	
CATTLE—First quality	4 10	4 40	
HOGS—Western	4 10	4 15	
INDIANAPOLIS			
GRAIN—Wheat—No 2	70	70 1/2	
Corn—No 2 mixed	20	20 1/2	
Oats—No 2	18	18 1/2	
LOUISVILLE			
FLOUR—Winter patent	3 75	4 00	
GRAIN—Wheat—No 2 red	60	60 1/2	
Corn—Mixed	20	20 1/2	
Oats—Mixed	18	18 1/2	
PORK—Mess	7 50	7 50	
LARD—Steam	4 20	4 45	

Informing Him.

"Pardon me, sir, but where do you live?" inquired the sharp-nosed passenger, leaning over the back of the seat in front of him.

"Southern part of Indiana," laconically replied the goat-whiskered passenger, who was trigged out in a spickety-span new celluloid collar adorned with a hetic-hued futter-bow tie.

"In the southern part of Indiana, eh? What is the lay of the land in your vicinity?"

"Same as it is all over the country, I reckon."

"I do not see how that can be."

"Don't, eh? Wal, you don't suppose that Indiana is clear out of the United States, do you?"

"No, but—"

"Wal, I reckon 'Hail Columby' is the lay of the rest of the land, an' it's the same with Indiana."

Thereupon the inquisitive passenger wiped his interrogatory gimlet and put it away, and the Hoosier humorist withdrew, turtlet-fashion, into his celluloid collar. And the train rolled onward.—N. Y. Journal.

LOST APPETITE.

Could Not Eat the Most Tempting Dishes.

Many Days Without Any Food at All—Can Eat Four Square Meals a Day Now—The Cause of the Change.

From the Leader, Cleveland, Ohio.

For the restoration of an appetite which has been impaired or lost through sickness, no remedy can compare in effectiveness with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. This statement is substantiated by the experience and declarations of men and women with whom these pills have become a household medicine. Among the many who can offer testimony to this particular property of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is George Marshall, Jr., who lives at No. 19 Norwich street, Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Marshall is a news agent on the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, and his territory extends from Cleveland to Toledo. Like thousands of others who owe their health and vigor to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, Mr. Marshall never hesitates to sing their praises. In his case it was necessary to use only a few boxes of the pills to restore him to the full possession of bodily health. His digestive organs had become almost useless through sickness and serious illness, and in a surprisingly brief period, through the agency of this wonderful medicine, they were capable of again performing their functions in a regular and perfectly satisfactory manner. In narrating his experience, Mr. Marshall said:

"Last spring I was taken sick with inflammatory rheumatism, and my entire system was affected. To relieve the suffering it was necessary to paint me with iodine. After three months' treatment I became convalescent, but the attack had sapped my strength and left me extremely weak and feeble. I could scarcely lift an arm or a leg. This weakness permeated my entire system, and applied as well to my stomach and digestive apparatus as to my limbs. I soon discovered that I had lost my appetite almost as completely as though I never had one. I had no desire whatever to partake of any nourishment, and the natural result was that my convalescence was extremely slow, and I was unable to get on my feet. I was in a relapse or fall prey to another ailment on account of my debilitated condition."

"Many a day I would not take any nourishment, and whenever I did the quantity was too insignificant to materially hasten my improvement. Tempting dishes were prepared for me, but I could not touch them. I began to become more or less alarmed as did my parents, and one day my mother suggested the purchase of some of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for me. They had been recommended to her by a neighbor who had cured her of nothing short of miraculous, and I was so enthusiastically on their excellent qualities that mother was persuaded to try them. There is not much more to tell now, for I don't like to brag, but I can now eat three or four square meals a day, do I?"

"Three boxes of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills fixed me up sound as a dollar, and they will do the same for anyone else, I am sure. It was not long after I began to use the pills that I could feel myself improving. My strength began to return and so did my appetite, and I was on the road again in a short time. This is my experience, and I am glad to give it for the benefit of others who may have lost their appetites through sickness, and all forms of weakness. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of whatever nature. Pink Pills are sold in boxes (never loose bulk) at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y."

"It's surprising how impracticable some very learned men are." "Yes; there's Prof. Lingvist, for example. He spent over half his life in acquiring fluency in nine or ten different languages, and then went and married a woman who never gave him a chance to get a word in edgeways."—Truth.

The Grain-O Law Suit.

Rochester, N. Y., May 19, 1897.—The great \$50,000 damage suit instituted by a Michigan Cereal Co. against the Genesee Pure Food Co. is at an end. The Genesee company took it out of court for the ridiculously small sum of \$500 and, as a practical result, Grain-O is in greater demand than ever. The new plant only just completed is to be duplicated so that not only the old friends of the delicious food drink which completely takes the place of coffee, but the new friends it is making every day, can be supplied. The beverage which the children, as well as the adult, may drink with benefit will be furnished in unlimited quantities. Suits may come and suits may go, but Grain-O goes on forever.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

The fortunate people in this world are those who have at least one friend in whose presence they can blow their own horns without discouragement.—Atchison Globe.

Shake Into Your Shoes.

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous, hot, tired, aching feet. Try it to-day. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores, 25c. Trial package FREE. Write to Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

"I want something nice in oil for a dining-room." "Yes, madam. A landscape or a box of sardines?"

"Star Tobacco."

As you chew tobacco for pleasure, use Star. It is not only the best, but the most lasting, and therefore the cheapest.

A woman doesn't mind a windy day if she has on a silk petticoat.—Washington Democrat.

After six years' suffering, I was cured by Pisco's Cure.—Mary Thomson, 39 1/2 Ohio Ave., Allegheny, Pa., March 19, '94.

Say nothing; it is the only way to avoid being misquoted.—Atchison Globe.

Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Is a Constitutional Cure. Price 75c.

You can tell a preacher's letter by the odd stationery they all use.

THE "GROWN-UP" DAUGHTER'S DUTY TO HER MOTHER.

You can only have one mother; therefore, when her step is growing slow and her mind gloomy with forebodings, and you can see that her whole nervous system is upset, it is your filial duty and privilege to attend to her in time! Mother is approaching the most critical period of her life.

The change of life, that is what mother is dreading, and no wonder, for it is full of peril to all but the strongest women.

There are some special and very wearing symptoms from which mother suffers, but she will not speak of them to any one. Help her out; she doesn't know what to do for herself!

Shall I advise you? First, send to the nearest drug store and get a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and see that mother takes it regularly, then write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., giving all the symptoms and you will receive a prompt reply telling mother what to do for herself. In the meantime the Vegetable Compound will make life much easier for her. It tones up the nervous system, invigorates the body, and the "blues" vanish before it as darkness flees from the sunlight. You can get it at any reliable druggist's.

Mrs. Louis Strong, Harris Hill, Erie Co., N. Y., says: "I have been troubled with falling of the womb for years, was advised to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I took thirteen bottles and received great benefit. When the time for change of life came I suffered a great deal with faintness and palpitation of the heart. I got one bottle of the Vegetable Compound and one of Blood Purifier and was relieved again. I was thereby enabled to pass through that serious period very comfortably."

An Odd Genius.

The papers are full of tales just now of how the late composer, Brahms, treated pianists and singers who were eager to get his criticism. If one of these aspirants for his favor was fortunate enough to find him at home and be received, Brahms' first concern was to seat himself on the lid of his piano, a position from which he rightly deemed few would have the temerity to oust him. If this failed he had recourse to the statement that the instrument was out of tune. "Oh, that does not matter," remarked one courageous individual. "Perhaps not to you, but it does to me," replied the master. On one occasion he was just leaving his house when a long-haired youth, with a bundle of music under his arm, hailed him with: "Can you tell me where Dr. Brahms lives?" "Certainly," answered the master, in the most amiable manner, "in this house up three flights," and so saying he hurried away.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Summer Vacations.

Interesting illustrated booklets pertaining to Massachusetts Seashore, Ocean, Island and Inland Resorts, are issued by the passenger department of the Fall River Line, the famous route between New York and Boston, Newport, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Bar Harbor, the White Mountains, etc., etc. List of the booklets will be mailed upon receipt of one-cent stamp. Address O. H. Taylor, Gen'l Pass'r Agent, Fall River Line, New York.

Spirited Sarcasm.

"I wonder," said Mr. Drinkhorn, as he filled his glass with the ease of an expert, "I wonder who started the custom of calling a drink of liquor a 'smile'?"

"I wouldn't call that one there a smile," said the barkeep. "It is nothing shy of a horselaugh."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Only \$25.00 to San Francisco, From Chicago via the North-Western Line (Chicago & North-Western Railway), the famous "California in 3 Days" Route, June 29 to July 3, inclusive, on account of the C. E. Convention. Similar rates will be made eastbound. For full information apply to ticket agents C. & N. W. Ry.

When we say that wisdom is better than rubies we generally mean our wisdom and other people's rubies.—N. Y. Weekly.

"For some years I was quite out of health, and took much medicine which did me no good. I was advised by a friend to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla which I did, taking a dozen or more bottles before stopping. The result was that I felt so well and strong that I, of course, think there is no medicine equal to Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and I take great pains to tell any suffering friend of it and what it did for me."—Mrs. L. A. MURRAY, Kibbourn, Wis., Feb. 11, 1896.

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